

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CAN OPENER.

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This invention relates to a device for opening an end of a metal commodity container.

An important object of the invention is to provide a simple manually operated device adapted to be permanently secured to a stationary support that will effectively cut at a single stroke the side wall of a metal can adjacent one of the ends without injury to the operator.

A further object is to provide a can opening device that will so cut the wall of the can adjacent one end that the entire contents may be removed therefrom in an immutated condition, and in which the severed portions will not present ragged or sharp edges.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which,

Fig. 1 is a longitudinal section through the can opener showing the same attached to a support, and a can in position for opening, the cutting stroke being shown in dotted lines.

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view, the position of the can being shown in dotted lines.

Fig. 3 is a similar view, with parts of the cutting knife guide ways broken away, showing the knife at the completion of its cutting stroke.

Fig. 4 is a transverse section of the opener taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Referring more specifically to the drawings, 5 designates a flat metallic plate or frame provided on one end with upwardly and downwardly extending lugs 6, 7 respectively for rigidly securing the plate to a stationary support 8, such as a wall or door frame. Secured by means of screws to the underface of plate 5, adjacent lug 7, is a horizontally disposed tongue 9 spaced from the plate and having a segmental edge 10, for engaging the circular wall of the can when the same is placed thereagainst for an opening operation, see Figures 1 to 3.

The longitudinal edges of plate 5 are thickened and provided with oppositely disposed guide grooves 11, 12, in which the flat cutter knife 13 is reciprocatingly disposed. The guide grooves are disposed below the under surface of the plate in order that the cutter knife will cut below the beaded end 14 of the can, see Fig. 1. The cutting edge of the knife is provided midway between its side edges with a can piercing point 15 and the

cutting edges 16, 17, extend from said point rearwardly towards the side edges in order to cause a shearing action of the blade on a can cutting operation.

In order to reciprocate the cutter 14 an operating handle 20, is provided, the inner end being pivotally secured to an upstanding bearing 21, formed on the upper face of plate 5 adjacent its free end. Connected to the free transverse edge of cutter and to the handle is an operating link 22, the same being of such length as to force the cutter the entire length of plate 5 in a can severing operation, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

The operation of the device will be clearly apparent from the above description. When it is desired to open a metal container, such as a cylindrical can of vegetables, the operator first raises the handle to reciprocate the cutter rearwardly, and an end of the can 23 is placed against the under surface of plate 5, and in contact with the segmental edge of tongue 9. The handle is then slowly lowered until the can penetrating point engages and enters the can, the movement is then rapidly and forcefully continued to force the cutter through the entire cylindrical wall of the can, the handle being again raised to withdraw the cutter from engagement with the can and the severed top.

From the above it will be clear that I have provided a simple can opening device that may be freely operated without danger of cutting the hands of an operator as is frequently the case in hand operated tools of this character.

What I claim is:

A can opener comprising a flat frame member provided along its longitudinally extending edges with grooved guide ways, said guide ways being disposed below the under surface of the frame member, a flat cutter plate reciprocatingly disposed in said guide ways, an upwardly extending bearing lug centrally secured to the upper face of the frame member at its outer end, a handle member pivotally secured to the bearing lug, and a link pivotally secured to the handle and to the forward end of the cutter plate.

In witness that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto subscribed my name this 30th day of April, 1926.

LOUIS J. LUNTZ.